

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend Figures 1-3, 7, and 12 as discussed below and as shown on the corrected formal drawings of these figures.

In Figure 1:

Please delete reference numerals “113”, “114”, and “115” and the lead lines therefrom.

In Figure 2:

Please delete reference characters “19g” and “20g” and reference numeral “27” and the lead lines therefrom.

In Figure 3:

Please delete reference characters “13a”, “20a”, “20b”, “20d”, and “20e” and the lead lines therefrom.

In Figure 7:

Please delete reference numeral “44” and the lead line therefrom.

In Figure 12:

Please delete “Figure 12” and insert adjacent the topmost figure the legend --Figure 12A-- and insert adjacent the bottommost figure the legend --Figure 12B--.

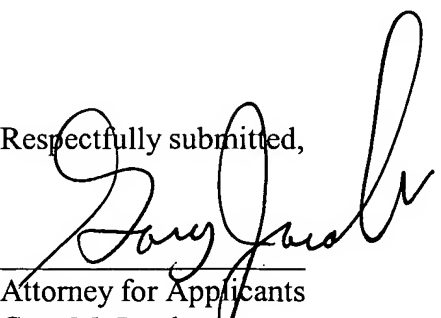
Remarks

Figures 1-3 and 7 have been amended to delete reference characters shown therein that are not discussed in the specification. Figure 2 has been amended to delete reference numeral "27" to correct a typographical error, since the specification and the other drawings use reference numeral "27" to denote the magnetic roller bearing, while Figure 2 mistakenly uses reference numeral "27" to denote the image forming apparatus body. Figure 12 has been amended to change the legend "Figure 12" to the legends --Figure 12A-- and --Figure 12B--, since Figure 12 shows two figures that are referred to in the specification as Figures 12A and 12B. In addition, the specification and Claims 1-9 have been amended solely to improve their form.

As a result, this amendment is needed for proper disclosure and protection of the invention and would require no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office. Accordingly, this amendment satisfies the criteria for entry of MPEP § 714.16 and such entry is respectfully solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Gary M. Jacobs
Registration No. 28,861

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
186377 v 1